## CLAIMS

- A method for reducing power consumption of a subscriber station,
   comprising:
  - determining a number of frames that must be received correctly; and
- 4 terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly.
- The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said determining a number of
   frames that must be received correctly comprises;
  - determining an amount of redundancy; and
- 4 determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.
- The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of
   redundancy comprises:
- providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received 4 frames.
  - The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:
    - determining an encoding rate of received frames; and
- 4 determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.
  - 5. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy comprises:
- 4 determining a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.
  - 6. The method as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

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- 2 increasing said determined minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.
  - The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:
  - determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the received frames.
    - 8. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:
- providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the 4 received frames.
  - 9. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly comprises:
- terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is
   obligated to receive the frames expired.
  - 10. A method for performing hard handoff on a common broadcast channel comprising:
- receiving at a subscriber station frames transmitted on the common 4 broadcast channel from a first sector;
  - determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;
- 6 identifying at the subscriber station at least one sector belonging to a soft handoff group different from a soft handoff group including the first sector;
- 8 determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be received correctly;
  - terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly; and
- 12 beginning reception of frames from the identified at least one sector.

- 11. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining a number of
- 2 frames that must be received correctly comprises:
  - determining an amount of redundancy; and
- 4 determine number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.
- The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amount
   of redundancy comprises:
- providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received
- 4 frames.
- 13. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amountof redundancy comprises:
  - determining an encoding rate of received frames; and
- 4 determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.
  - 14. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining number of
- 2 frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy comprises:
- 4 determining a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.
  - 15. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:
- 2 increasing said determining minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.
  - 16. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:
- determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the
- 4 received frames.

17. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an 2 encoding rate of received frames comprises:

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providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the 4 received frames

- 18. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said terminating reception of 2 the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly comprises:
- terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is
   obligated to receive the frames expired.
  - 19. The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:
  - determining whether at least some decoded packets received from the at least one sector are identical to at least some decoded packets received from the first sector; and
- discarding the identical packets.

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20. A method for a handoff from an area covered by an origination systeminto an area covered by a destination system comprising:

receiving at a subscriber station service on a channel from a sector in the 4 origination system:

determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;

6 identifying at the subscriber station a destination system;

determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be 8 received correctly;

terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of 10 frames were received correctly;

tuning to a frequency of the destination system; and

receiving service on a channel from at least one sector if the at least one sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

- 21. The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:
- 2 determining a time to restart receiving at a subscriber station service on the channel from the sector in the origination system.

- 22. The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:
- 2 storing signals received at the frequency of the destination system; retuning to the origination frequency;
- 4 at the subscriber station concurrently:
- receiving service on the channel from the sector in the origination system; and
- analyzing the stored signals to identify a sector in a destination system that can provide service;
- if no sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber 10 station.
- 23. The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein said retuning to the origination frequency comprises:
- retuning to the origination frequency before the time to restart receiving

  4 service on a channel from a sector in the origination system
- 24. The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:
- 2 performing hard handoff if the sector in a destination system is identified.
  - 25. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:
- replacing part of a content of a parity portion of a transmitting buffer with 4 a signaling information; and
- transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.

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2 increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.

The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

27. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling,comprising:

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encoding a content of a systematic portion of a transmitting buffer with a 4 first code to provide parity bits into a first part of a parity portion of the transmitting buffer:

- adding signaling information into a second part of the parity portion of the transmitting buffer, the second part being different from the first part;
- 8 transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.
  - 28. The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:
- encoding a content in the systematic portion of the transmitting buffer with a second code to provide parity bits into the parity portion of the transmitting buffer; and
- transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at other than the determined time on the common broadcast channel.
  - 29. The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising:
- 2 increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.
  - 30. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:
- providing frames received on the common broadcast channel to a 4 receiving buffer;
- decoding the receiving buffer with a first code if the frames were received 6 in error during a determined time; and
  - decoding the receiving buffer with a second code if the frames were received in error otherwise.
    - 31. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:
- encoding a packet containing channel content information with a first 4 code:
- encoding a packet containing channel content information and signaling information with a second code; and

transmitting said encoded packets.

- 32. A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, 2 comprising:
- decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis; and

  decoding received packet in accordance with a second rate hypothesis if
  said decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis was

  unsuccessful.